

Wagner, Raymond PO3/ESUCLEVELAND

UNCLAS

R 012217Z AUG 01  
FM COGARD MSO DETROIT MI  
TO CCGDNINE CLEVELAND OH//CC/M//  
INFO.COMDT COGARD WASHINGTON DC//G-MOR/G-OPF//  
COMLANTAREA COGARD PORTSMOUTH VA//AM/ACC//  
COGARD NATIONAL RESPONSE CENTER WASHINGTON DC  
COGARD NSFCC ELIZABETH CITY NC  
COGARD AST FORT DIX NJ  
COMCOGARDGRU DETROIT MI  
COGARD AIRSTA DETROIT MI  
COMCOGARD NPFC WASHINGTON DC  
COGARD FINCEN CHESAPEAKE VA//ORGQ//  
COMCOGARD MLC LANT NORFOLK VA//FCP-2//  
HQ EPA WASHINGTON DC  
US EPA REGION V CHICAGO  
COGARD STA BELLE ISLE MI  
COMDT COGARD WASHINGTON DC//G-MOR/G-OPF//  
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HQ EPA WASHINGTON DC  
US EPA REGION V CHICAGO  
COGARD STA BELLE ISLE MI  
COGARD MSO TOLEDO OH  
BT

US EPA RECORDS CENTER REGION 5



406663

UNCLAS //N16465//  
OPER/ATOFINA CHEMICAL PLANT HAZMAT RELEASE//  
MSGID/SITREP-POL/COGARD MSO DETROIT MI/-//  
SUBJ/SITREP-POL FOUR/ACTUAL MAJOR, METHYL MERCAPTAN AND CHLORINE  
RELEASE, RAIL CAR FIRE, ADJACENT TO TRENTON CHANNEL, RIVERVIEW, MI, MC  
01008815, CPN C01124//  
REF/A/MSG/MY/142140Z JUL 01//  
REF/B/MSG/MY/152241Z JUL 01//  
REF/C/MSG/MY/162218Z JUL 01//  
REF/D/LTR/MY/16480 OF 16 JUL 01/NOTAL//  
NARR/REF A IS SITREP-POL ONE. REF B IS SITREP-POL TWO. REF C IS  
SITREP-POL THREE. REF D IS LTR TO PRP FROM FOSC, DESCRIBED IN PARA. 2  
OF REF C.//  
RMKS/1. SITUATION.

A. OVERVIEW: SITUATION AS BEFORE, RAIL TANK CAR FIRE  
EXTINGUISHED, WITH PRP AND RESPONSE CONTRACTOR ASSESSING OPTIONS ON  
HOW TO REMOVE REMAINING PRODUCT FROM 2 TANK CARS AT SITE. A TOTAL OF 5

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LOADED RAIL CARS WERE WITHIN SITE LOCATION, 3 LOADED WITH CHLORINE AND 2 WITH METHYL MERCAPTAN. OF THESE TWO, ONE WAS INVOLVED AND HEAVILY DAMAGED IN FIRE; ONLY TRACE AMOUNTS OF METHYL MERCAPTAN, IF ANY, REMAIN IN IT. 3 OF 5 CARS NOT DAMAGED AT ALL. IN ADDITION TO DAMAGED RAIL CAR NOTED ABOVE, 1 CHLORINE CAR SUSTAINED SOME HEAT DAMAGE. DAMAGE IS SURFACE BURN TO SKIN OF RAIL CAR AND TO TWO HOSES WHERE CHLORINE LEAK OCCURRED. LEAKS WERE PATCHED AND STABILIZED. THAT CAR STILL REMAINS GREATEST SOURCE OF CONCERN FOR RESPONSE TEAMS, BUT POSES NO IMMINENT THREAT TO PUBLIC SAFETY AT THIS TIME. EFFORTS NOW FOCUS ON EMPTYING AND PURGING CHLORINE RAIL CAR.

B. O/S WX: WINDS S 5 KTS, 91F, PARTLY SUNNY, 8NM VIS.

C. FACILITY DATA: ATOFINA CHEMICAL PLANT, 17168 WEST JEFFERSON, RIVERVIEW, MI 48219.

D. SAR STATUS: NO ONGOING COAST GUARD SAR ACTIVITY.

E. COAST GUARD RESOURCES SUMMARY: MSO DETROIT O/S 17 JUL AND 01 AUG. VARIOUS UNITS AND STAFF ELEMENTS CONSULTED WITH. 5 AST MEMBERS ENROUTE, EXPECTED P.M. 01 AUG.

F. RESOURCES AT RISK: NO ENVIRONMENTAL OR HISTORIC RESOURCES ARE KNOWN TO BE AT RISK.

G. ECONOMIC IMPACT: ATOFINA PLANT IS TEMPORARILY SHUT DOWN FOR BUSINESS. PLANT STILL ABLE TO MEET CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS USING WORK-AROUNDS TO KEEP DELIVERING CHEMICAL PRODUCTS TO CUSTOMERS. CITIZENS FROM GROSSE ILE ARE REPORTEDLY ENTERING CLASS-ACTION LAW SUITS AGAINST COMPANY.

H. KEY STAKEHOLDER ISSUES: ENSURING THE SAFETY OF WORKERS IS TOP PRIORITY. AIR MONITORING CONTINUES, NOW BEING PROVIDED BY CENTER FOR TOXICOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH, LLC (CTEH), CONTRACTOR PAID BY ATOFINA. EPA AND PRP CONDUCTED 3 HOUSE SCREENINGS EVENING 16 JUL, RESPONDING TO CALLS TO CITIZEN HOTLINE; NO METHYL MERCAPTAN OR CHLORINE DETECTED. DECISION OF PRP TO ACCOMPANY TECHNICIANS TO HOUSES DECREASED MISTRUST AMONG THE HOMEOWNERS INVOLVED. SINCE 16 JUL, CTEH AND PRP HAVE SCREENED OTHER HOUSES WITH NEGRES. WINDSOR PORT AUTHORITY PLEASED WITH FOSC RESPONSE TO COMPLAINT THAT WINDSOR MARINE UNIT RESOURCES AND WINDSOR FIRE DEPARTMENT NOT NOTIFIED OF INCIDENT IN TIMELY FASHION AND POSSIBLE ACUTE EXPOSURE OF WINDSOR MARINE UNIT. MSO LOGS SHOWED TIMELY NOTIFICATION OF CANADIAN AUTHORITIES.

I. HEALTH AND HUMAN SAFETY FACTORS: NO RELEASE OF HAZMAT IS TAKING PLACE. RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH ENTERING HOT ZONE MITIGATED BY USE OF LEVEL D PPE.

J. MEDIA INTEREST: MODERATE LOCAL INTEREST. PUBLIC MEETING ON 26 JULY COVERED BY LOCAL OUTLETS.

K. CASUALTY INFORMATION: AS DESCRIBED IN REFS A-C. INVESTIGATIONS BY NTSB, MI OSHA, AND ATOFINA PEND.

L. INCIDENT/UNIFIED COMMAND STATUS: COMMAND POST AT ATOFINA CHEMICAL PLANT STAFFED BY PRP, RIVERVIEW FIRE DEPARTMENT, MSO DETROIT, EPA, WAYNE CO. PUBLIC HEALTH, AND CONTRACTED RESPONSE PERSONNEL ON "AS NECESSARY" BASIS.

2. ACTIONS TAKEN.



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A. 170858Q JUL 01: MSO REP O/S AT INCIDENT COMMAND POST.

B. 0920: MSO REP MET WITH EPA, PRP'S INDUSTRIAL HYGIENIST, AND AIR MONITORING CONTRACTOR CENTER FOR TOXICOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH, LLC (CTEH). REVIEWED WRITTEN AIR MONITORING PLAN REQUIRED BY REF C. EPA BRIEFED CTEH ON SAMPLING TO DATE.

C. 1058: MSO REP BRIEFED FOSC. FOSC SATISFIED WITH AIR MONITORING PLAN.

D. 1100: NTSB AND PRP ENTERED HOT ZONE IN LEVEL D FOR INVESTIGATION, WITH CONSTANT AIR MONITORING. FD, SRS, AND PRP STANDING BY FOR BACKUP AND DECON. METHYL MERCAPTAN REPORTED TO BE AT 0.2 PPM.

E. 1106: MSO REP MET WITH EPA, PRP'S LAWYER, PRP'S IH, AND CTEH TO DISCUSS RESULTS OF 16 JUL AIR MONITORING. NO METHYL MERCAPTAN OR CHLORINE DETECTED BY INSTRUMENTS OR BY SMELL. (POLLUTANTS HAVE LOW ODOR THRESHOLD); SOME AIR CONTAMINANTS (SUSPECTED TO BE MOLD SPORES OR OTHER MATERIAL) DETECTED BY FID AND PID METERS, BUT LEVELS NOT ABOVE BACKGROUND. ATOFINA REPORTS THEY'LL TAKE ACTION ON LESSON LEARNED: ONLY PLACE TO PULL EVACUATION SIREN WAS DOWNWIND OF INCIDENT.

F. 1154: MSO REP DEPARTED ICP.

G. 1200: CTEH RELIEVES EPA OF AIR MONITORING RESPONSIBILITIES. 1200: NTSB AND PRP EXIT HOT ZONE FOR SAFETY REST BREAK.

H. 1230: FOSC RESPONDED TO WINDSOR PORT AUTHORITY LETTER NOTED IN PARA. 1.H. ABOVE.

I. 1300: NTSB AND PRP ENTERED HOT ZONE IN LEVEL D FOR INVESTIGATION, WITH CONSTANT AIR MONITORING. FD, SRS, AND PRP STANDING BY FOR BACKUP AND DECON.

K. 1358: MI OSHA ENTERED HOT ZONE IN LEVEL D FOR INVESTIGATION, WITH CONSTANT AIR MONITORING. FD, SRS, AND PRP STANDING BY FOR BACKUP AND DECON.

L. 1400: NTSB AND PRP COMPLETE SECOND ENTRY.

M. 1500: MSO REQUESTED AND RECEIVED CPN CEILING INCREASE TO \$15K.

N. 1508: MI OSHA COMPLETES ENTRY.

O. 1615: PRP ENTERED HOT ZONE IN LEVEL D FOR INVESTIGATION, WITH CONSTANT AIR MONITORING. FD, SRS, AND PRP STANDING BY FOR BACKUP AND DECON.

P. 1720: PRP COMPLETES ENTRY.

Q. 1730: MSO REP RECEIVED BRIEF FROM PRP OPS CHIEF. NTSB, MIOSHA, AND PRP HAVE NO FURTHER PLANS TO ENTER HOT ZONE FOR INVESTIGATION. PRP WORKING ON PLANS TO EMPTY AND INERT METHYL MERCAPTAN RAIL CAR, AND EMPTY THE DAMAGED CHORINE CAR TO MAKE THEM SAFE TO MOVE.

R. 191115Q JUL 01: REDUCED SIZE OF HOT ZONE WITHIN PLANT TO INCLUDE PROCESS BUILDINGS 45 AND 46, PLUS THE RAIL CAR AREA.

S. 1030: EPA U/W ON US FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE BOAT TO TAKE WATER SAMPLES DOWNRIVER.

T. 1600: WATER SAMPLING COMPLETE, SAMPLES SENT TO LAB. RESULTS EXPECTED OOA 30 JULY.

U. 240900Q JUL 01: MSO CONTACTED BY SE MI COALITION FOR

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OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH (SEMCOSH) AND INVITED TO SPEAK AT 'TOWN HALL' STYLE PUBLIC MEETING TO BE SPONSORED BY SEMCOSH AND SIERRA CLUB AT ST ELIZABETHS CHURCH IN WYANDOTTE ON 26 JULY. HOST COULD NOT BE PERSUADED TO CHANGE MEETING FORMAT. CONSULTED WITH D9(DPA), NOAA SSC, AND EPA.

V. 261120Q JUL 01: PRP SENDS RAIL CAR CLEANING, PURGING, AND REMOVAL PLAN TO MSO FOR REVIEW. MSO BEGINS CONSULTING WITH AST, EPA, RAIL CAR EXPERTS, MLC LANT (KSE) INDUSTRIAL HYGIENISTS, AND EPA ERT EDISON, NJ.

W. 1900: SEMCOSH, SIERRA CLUB, WAYNE CO. PUBLIC HEALTH DEPT., EPA, MSO, AND NOAA SSC ADDRESS APPROX 150 CITIZENS AT PUBLIC MEETING. PRP INVITED UP DURING Q&A PERIOD, WHICH LASTED 2 HOURS. MOST QUESTIONERS REMAINED CALM, SOME THANKING RESPONDERS, 2-3 BECAME AGITATED. 1 RADIO AND 3 TV STATIONS REPRESENTED. RIVERVIEW FD NOT ABLE TO ATTEND DUE TO SHORT NOTICE. MANY QUESTIONS RELATED TO RESIDENTIAL EVACUATION AND/OR NOTIFICATION SCOPE AND PROCEDURES, AND ON ALLEGED LONG-TERM CONTAMINATION FROM ALLEGED PREVIOUS RELEASES. FRIENDS OF THE DETROIT RIVER ANNOUNCED THEY'LL JOIN CLASS ACTION LAWSUIT, SEEKING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, TO PROHIBIT PRP FROM RE-OPENING UNTIL IT DEMONSTRATES FULL COMPLIANCE WITH ALL FEDERAL AND STATE REGS.

X. 27 JUL 01: BRFD D9(MRO) ON ABOVE PUBLIC MTG.

Y. 1100Q: RCVD FOIA REQUEST FROM FRIENDS OF THE DETROIT RIVER FOR CORRESPONDENCE FM MSO TO PRP SINCE 13 JUL. MSO FOIA OFCR WILCO.

Z. 30 JUL 01: BRFD D9(M) AND (L) ON LAWSUIT ANNOUNCED ABOVE. MSO TO WATCH FOR POSSIBLE CHALLENGES TO CG FOSC AUTHORITY AND BRIEF UP AS NEEDED.

AA. 011030Q AUG 01: UC MTG TO DISCUSS WORK PLAN TO EMPTY AND PURGE CHLORINE RAIL CAR. FOSC, RIVERVIEW FIRE CHIEF, PRP, SRS, CTEH, AND WAYNE CO. PUBLIC HEALTH DEPT PRESENT. PLAN APPROVED FOR END-TO-END RAIL CAR PRODUCT TRANSFER ON AFFECTED SITE AREA. EMPTY RECEIVING CAR AND SRS CONTRACTOR CLOSED TRANSFER SYSTEM EQPT STAGED AND ON SITE. CONCERN BY ALL PARTIES ABOUT RISING PRESSURE IN DAMAGED RAIL CAR DUE TO HIGH SUMMER HEAT. EVENING TRANSFER PLANNED TO KEEP RAIL TANK CAR PRESSURES AS LOW AS POSSIBLE. RFD TO STAND BY WITH A TURN KEY EMERGENCY RESPONSE CAPABILITY READY TO GO. RFD FIRE CHIEF TO BRIEF MAYOR AND FIRE CHIEFS FROM NEIGHBORING COMMUNITIES PRIOR TO START-UP. START OF OPERATIONS CONDITIONAL ON APPROVAL OF SITE SAFETY PLAN. SSP TO BE REVIEWED BY MSO, AST, AND MSO TOLEDO XO, WHO IS IH AND HAS AST EXPERIENCE.

BB. 1315: REQUESTED AST SUPPORT TO SUPERVISE SITE SAFETY AND AIR MONITORING DURING EXECUTION OF RAIL CAR CLEANING, PURGING, AND REMOVAL PLAN.

CC. 1750: LEARNED THAT AST COSTS FOR THIS INCIDENT WILL BE CHARGED AGAINST CPN C01124 VICE C01A13. REQUESTED NPFC INCREASE CEILING TO \$50K. NPFC DUTY OFCR EXPECTS CASE MGR WILL ISSUE CEIL. INCR. MSG IN MORNING.

3. ADDITIONAL INFO.

A. CPN INFO: CPN C01124.

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B. CPN CEILING \$15,000. EXPENDED: CG COSTS \$11,000, CONTRACTOR COSTS BORNE BY PRP.

4. FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

A. 021800Q AUG 01: OVERSEE EXECUTION OF CHLORINE RAIL CAR CLEANING, PURGING, AND REMOVAL PLAN. OPERATION EXPECTED TO TAKE 12 HRS.

B. CONTINUE TO MONITOR SITUATION AND OVERSEE OPERATIONS PERIODICALLY AS NEEDED.

C. RE-EVALUATE THREAT BASED UPON STATUS OF RAIL CARS.

D. CO'S COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS: PUBLIC INTEREST MODERATING, BUT OCCASIONALLY SIGNIFICANT. NO IMMEDIATE THREAT, SITUATION IS STABILIZED. MSO WILL TRACK LOCALLY WITH GROSSE ILE EPA OFFICE. NEXT REPORT TO OCCUR UPON COMPLETION OF CHLORINE OFFLOAD.

E. CASE PENDING.

BT

NNNN